

CUSTOMER NO.: 24498
Serial No. 10/660,141
Response dated: 20 November 2007

PATENT
PF030065

Remarks/Arguments

35 USC §102

As previously pointed out, in order to comply with IEEE 802.11, a basic service set or WLAN can have only one access point. The instant invention uses a bridge device to provide access to other networks so that a basic service set can act as a backbone for connecting to other networks, and still comply with IEEE 802.11.

The Examiner has asserted that US Patent No. 6,400,702 to Meier, shows in Figure 9, "only one an (sic) access point device (WDAP₄₂₅) other than the bridge device adapted to manage the centralized wireless network". However, the Examiner has failed to take into consideration access points 431, 433 and 435. These access points are described in column 24, lines 34 and 35, of the cited patent to Meier. It is therefore clear that Meier does not show or suggest:

"only one access point device other than the bridge device, adapted to manage the centralized wireless network"

as specifically recited in Claim 1. Rather Meier shows, in Figure 9, and describes in column 24, lines 34 and 35, access points 431, 433 and 435, in addition to wireless access point 425. As a result, network 421, shown in Figure 9, contains more than one access point other than the bridge device. Nowhere does Meier show or suggest a network comprising only one access point device other than the bridge device, as specifically recited in Claim 1. Therefore, Meier does not meet the requirements of IEEE 802.11

It is therefore clear that the patent to Meier does not affect the patentability of Claim 1 under 35 USC § 102(c).

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Claims 2 to 9 are dependent from Claim 1, and add further advantageous features. The Applicants submit that these subclaims are patentable as their parent Claim 1.

The Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider his rejection and to approve the instant application for patent.

Respectfully submitted,
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